



NEWSLETTER

April 2008

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President's Corner

Hello Fellow Testers! Lots of news and events to share with you this month! We have two new committee chairs: Tony Garces is now heading up our Education Committee and Jim "Hutch" Hutchinson is our new Membership Committee chair. Thanks to them for volunteering! And speaking of volunteering, the annual ITEA professional awards are upcoming. The awards and their criteria are described at the end of this newsletter. Consider nominating a deserving individual or team. Suggest nominations to our Awards and Nominations Committee Chair, Andy Manriquez at andyman51@verizon.net.

April 29th will be our annual Corporate Sponsor Breakfast and Scholarship Awards. Dr. John Foulkes will be addressing us at the Army Navy Country Club. You do not need to be affiliated with one of the Corporate Sponsors to attend. Come out and meet our Scholarship winners and show appreciation to our sponsors. The first 15 members to RSVP to todd.stevenson@sparta.com will attend for free!

Our Annual June Membership Appreciation barbecue is being combined with our Second Annual Golf Tournament this year. As always, it is the third Thursday of the month. Details for signups are now on our website.

In the meantime, we hope to see you at our April Luncheon on the 17th. As always, if you bring a friend and they join ITEA at the luncheon, you both get a free future luncheon on us! - President Cathy Cordova



March Luncheon

At its March 21st luncheon at the Army Navy Country Club in Arlington, the chapter heard Mr Alan R. Shaffer, Principal Director, Defense Research and Engineering (DDR&E), discuss the status of US research and engineering today. He said the vision of DR&E is to develop technology to defeat any adversary on any battlefield, noting that the world is changing rapidly. The pace of technology change is accelerating and the US is losing its position. In just 5 years we have fallen from 1st place to 3rd place in the world in engineering and science. PhDs and world R&D expenditures are increasing faster than US expenditures. The US balance of trade in technology has seen the US drop from a net exporter to an importer. Meanwhile the strategic threat has changed from conventional to insurgency. In light of all this, Shaffer said the DDR&E technology priorities are now biometric and biological, information technology, persistent surveillance, network and communications, HMAR modeling, languages, directed energy weapons, autonomous systems, and more. The science and technology program includes nanotechnology, biometrics, and genetic algorithms. In their budget projection to year 2013, DDR&E sees increasing investment in unmanned system, non-intrusive instrumentation, and spectrum efficiency. Shaffer commented that the US Defense approach is working toward modeling and simulation that is common to acquisition, analysis, test and evaluation, planning, training, experimentation, and intelligence.



Al Shaffer addresses chapter

In a lively Q&A session, Shaffer said there is a problem with the safety of commercial off the shelf software which is often developed offshore and subject to trojan horses, but the government can not develop all of its needed software. He saw a need for much improved testing of very highly developed software with near zero defects. He also saw challenges in information assurance and attracting young Americans to engineering and science.

After the talk, chapter president Cathy Cordova presented Shaffer with a framed print of Tidal Basin cherry blossoms, mentioning that the next day was the official start of Spring.



President Cathy Cordova presents guest speaker Al Shaffer a memento

Corporate Sponsor of the Month

NORTHROP GRUMMAN

Mission Systems

Northrop Grumman has world-class core competency in test and evaluation.

The company's Mission Systems sector has built its reputation on strength in leadership and advanced technology expertise by applying cutting edge technology and highly skilled technical personnel to a host of programs from strategic and tactical weapons and information systems to automated identification, environmental assessment, and public safety communications.

With proven methodologies, Mission Systems tests and evaluates systems and operations under field and laboratory conditions; builds and operates engineering and operational simulations; analyzes new and existing policies, systems and programs; designs, develops, and integrates a diverse range of systems; and conducts applied research.

To meet these challenging requirements Mission Systems combines its technology, people, and physical assets to consistently deliver unparalleled service and support to its customers.

New Members

Joining our chapter during March were:

- **Jim "Hutch" Hutchinson** of SRC
- **Donald W Neal** of MITRE Corp
- **Kimberly Sampson**
- **Susan Whitehead** of IDA.

Welcome them when you see them.

LOOKING AHEAD

Apr 17 – Luncheon, **Frank DiGiovanni**, OSD

Apr 29 – Corporate Breakfast

May 1 – Chapter business meeting

May 15 – Luncheon, **John Bolino**, ODOT&E

Jun 5 – Chapter business meeting

Jun 19 – **BBQ & Golf Tournament**

For time and location of business meetings, contact catherine.cordova@mda.mil

Chapter Website

Our chapter has a website where you can see chapter events, organization, and copies of previous newsletters, and reserve and pay for luncheons online by PayPal.

Check it out at

<http://www.gw-itea.org>

George Washington Chapter Officers and Committee Chairs

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NEXT LUNCHEON MEETING

Thursday, April 17th

Army-Navy Country Club, 2400 18th Street South, Arlington, VA 22204

Guest Speaker

**Frank C. DiGiovanni, Director, Military Training and Sustainable Ranges
Office of the Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Readiness)**

Cost:

\$15 if you make reservations by Tuesday, April 15th by PayPal on our website at <http://gw-itea.org/information/luncheons.cfm>

or

\$20 if you reserve by email at iteagw@yahoo.com and pay at the door

International Test and Evaluation Awards

Allen R. Matthews Award was established in honor of ITEA's founder. The award is presented to an individual for a lasting, significant contribution to the field of T&E, such as the cumulative effect of a distinguished career. It is the highest award bestowed by ITEA. The recipient need not be a member of ITEA, however contributions to ITEA and to other professional associations oriented towards T&E will be a factor in the selection process. Groups, organizations, or institutions are not eligible for this award.

Evaluation Criteria:

1. Length of time over which contributions have been made
2. Impact of the contribution on T&E
3. Significant achievements that benefited ITEA as a result of an office held or committee involvement
4. Services performed that enhance and strengthen ITEA in its objectives

Special Achievement Award recognizes a recent outstanding achievement in test and evaluation engineering, technology, or management such as the solution of a major problem, or a notable project success for which there is evidence that tangible benefits have accrued. The award may be presented to an individual, group, or organization. Candidates need not be member of ITEA

Evaluation Criteria:

1. Demonstrated innovated utilization of management tools to enhance the execution of the test and evaluation plan.
2. Developed innovative concepts and processes for utilization during the planning, execution and reporting of test & evaluation events.
3. Utilized creative management tools to control cost and schedule.
4. Utilized innovative approaches/processes/concepts for resolving problems and/or critical test and evaluation issues.
5. Provided quick, accurate, and responsive feedback to the decision maker.
6. Developed, coordinated, and completed timely, accurate, precise, and comprehensive reports.
7. Executed the test and evaluation event in a timely and efficient manner resulting in project savings.
8. Placed emphasis on the safety of human resources, and the proper maintenance of the testing environment.

Technical Achievement Award - Information Technology recognizes a recent outstanding achievement in the use of Information Technology in test and evaluation. This is applicable to information technology support in the test process, whether in the test vehicle or in supporting the test. Any individual or team associated with test is eligible to receive the award. The individual or team members do not have to be an active member of ITEA.

Evaluation Criteria:

1. Technical Merit - 40 points: How did it support the test process? What is unique about this achievement? Is this a new idea or an idea applied to a completely different application?
2. Support of Organizational Mission - 30 points: How does it support the organizational mission to satisfy the test customer? At what level is the organization to which it provides direct mission support? To what extent, if any, has/can this achievement benefit other test organizations with a similar mission?
3. Resource Savings/Efficiency/Performance - 30 points: How much manpower does it save and how did it save it? Does it save any dollars in equipment, contracts, or supplies, and how much? Can you show that the achievement is more efficient and what is the basis for this improved efficiency? Explain how this achievement improved the test process performance?

Richard G. Cross Award was established in honor of the late Major General Richard G. Cross, Jr., USAF (Ret), one of the most highly respected individuals in the field of test and evaluation in the 20th century. ITEA presents this award to recognize outstanding achievements in the development or administration of test and evaluation education. It may be awarded to any deserving individual, organization, or institution. ITEA membership is not a requirement for eligibility, but will be considered.

Evaluation Criteria: Nominees must have demonstrated outstanding achievement in the field of test and evaluation education by means of accomplishment in one or more of the following areas: Administration. Establish a test and evaluation education program in a recognized institution of higher learning, either civilian or military; or administer an existing program with such professional competence as to merit special recognition. Education. Exhibit exceptional technical competence as an educator on one or more of the academic subject areas in the general field of test and evaluation. Educational efforts that promote test and evaluation as a professional discipline shall be a prime evaluation criterion. Research. Develop new theories, concepts, or techniques for use in test and evaluation education. The results should be documented and available for general use.

Publication Award recognizes outstanding contributions to test and evaluation literature. ITEA presents this award to honor individuals whose published books and technical papers have improved and increased the general body of knowledge relevant to better understanding and development of test and evaluation technology. The literary works considered may be broad in scope or may address a single functional area that is included under the test and evaluation umbrella. The Publications Award may be awarded to any author or authors whose literary work is of high quality and addresses test and evaluation topics. Membership in ITEA is not required; however, the literary works for which the author is nominated should complement ITEA's goals. Co-authors are eligible for joint recognition. Organizations, groups, or institutions are not eligible. The following prerequisites also apply: a. Published work must be original and must adhere to the accepted practices of scholarly research methods. Proper credits must be given where material is drawn from other sources; the conclusions are to be suitably justified, and statements of opinion are to be identified as such. B. An author can only receive this award one time for the same publication. C. Only published works available to the public will be considered.

Evaluation Criteria:

1. Published works will generally be ranked according to the following hierarchy:
 - Books by a single author
 - Books by co-authors
 - Books by an editor
 - Monograph series
 - Monograph
 - Referred article in a published journal
 - Tutorial text
 - Series of by-lined technical articles
 - Television script, where authorship is specified
2. Relative impact of the published work in terms of its influence in the test and evaluation field.
3. The degree to which the author drew upon approved research methods in the justification of any conclusions.
4. The organization of the published material, editorial style, and conciseness of presentation.

Time-Space-Positioning Information and Electro-optics Award (TSPI/E-O) recognizes individuals who contribute outstanding achievements and made significant contributions to the advancement of Time-Space-Positioning Information (TSPI) data collection and electro-optics (E-O) T&E. The award includes a crystal trophy and check for \$1,000 made possible by Brashear LP. The recipient of the TSPI/E-O Award must be an individual and need not be an active member of ITEA.

Evaluation Criteria: Award is granted based on the recommendation of an independent team of professionals using the following, equally weighted, evaluation factors applied to the written nomination:

1. Relative Value of Contribution to T&E - Since this is an ITEA award, it is considered valuable that the contribution to, or advancement of, the state of the art has a value or application to the Test and Evaluation (T&E) process or community.
2. Extent of Application - Since ITEA is attempting to enhance the T&E process, it is considered that a contribution or advancement is more valuable if it has a broader or more extensive application in the T&E community.
3. Relationship to TSPI/E-O - Since this is the TSPI/E-O award, the contribution or advancement is considered more valuable if it is connected with Time, Space-Position Information (TSPI) systems and/or Electro-Optical systems.
4. Personal Contribution of Nominee - Since this is an individual award, the contribution or advancement is considered of greater value if the person who is to receive the recognition actually contributed to the advancement or contribution.